

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7-11, 13, 14, 16, 18-22, 24, and 25 are submitted herein for continued examination.

The present invention relates generally to secured transactions. Aspects of the invention as recited in the amended pending claims include:

- (a) a first information apparatus (e.g., server system) generating an encryption key and an access number, which are associated with content;
- (b) the content, the encryption key, and the access number are sent to a second information apparatus (e.g., client system) as enhanced data;
- (c) the second information apparatus then produces "input data" (or secured data) that is sent back to the first information apparatus, a portion of the input data being encrypted with the encryption key obtained from the enhanced content, the input data also includes the access number obtained from the enhanced content;
- (d) the first information apparatus then performs validation on the "input data" based on the access number and on a decryption of the encrypted portion.


The reference to Downs et al. does not show the foregoing combination of features. For example, Downs et al. do not disclose generating an encryption key and an access number at a server, which is then transmitted in the form of enhanced content to a client. Downs et al. do not disclose that the client obtains the encryption key from the enhanced content, produces "input data" at least a portion of which is encrypted by the encryption key obtained from the enhanced content, and then transmits the input data back to the server. Downs et al. also do not show that the input data includes the access number obtained from the enhanced data. Downs et al. do not anticipate or suggest the present invention as recited in the pending claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, all claims now pending in this Application are believed to be in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,


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